

ARTS EDUCATION

ART CAN IMPROVE EDUCATION

Research conducted by the Texas Cultural Trust shows that academic achievement, school attendance, graduation rates, and higher education attendance rates are significantly improved for students who are highly engaged in the arts. Highly engaged students took four or more arts courses, while minimally engaged students took only the required one course.

- Texas students highly engaged in the arts are between **34% and 112% more likely to earn an exceptional score on standardized tests** than students who are minimally engaged.
- Students who were highly engaged in the arts were **20% more likely to attend college and 42% more likely to attend a four-year institution** than those who completed only the minimum requirement.

INEQUALITY & INEQUITY OF ARTS EDUCATION ACCESS

Access to arts education is far from equitable from one Texas school district to the next.

- Suburban schools offer **70% more arts courses** than rural schools.
- Students in **high-poverty schools have less access to the arts** than students in low-poverty schools. High-poverty campuses have fewer arts courses and fewer arts teachers.
- Teachers at **high-poverty schools serve 32% more students** than teachers at low-poverty schools.

In Texas, across all subjects, students who are economically disadvantaged were **more likely to pass standardized tests** when highly engaged in the arts.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACCESS

Student Perspective: In Texas, there are 2.42 million students enrolled in grades 1-6. Of those students,

- 1,603,748 have a music-certified teacher.
- 1,100,302 have a visual art-certified teacher.
- 35,017 have a theatre-certified teacher.

Educator Perspective: In Texas, 18,290 teachers provide arts education instruction for elementary grade students. Of these teachers, **61% are not fine arts certified.**

THE ARTS CREATE POSITIVE BEHAVIORS

- The arts teach collaboration and communication skills.
- The arts reinforce kindness, sharing, and empathy.
- The arts encourage practice, persistence, and patience.
- Students become more confident and better leaders.
- Students learn to persevere and become more self-aware.
- Students maintain these behaviors in their day-to-day interactions.

ARTS EDUCATION & SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING SKILLS

- Increase the likelihood of high school graduation.
- Improve readiness for postsecondary education.
- Directly impact career success.
- Positively impact family and work relationships.
- Improve mental health.
- Reduce criminal behavior.
- Produce more engaged citizens.